

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication apparatus for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the apparatus comprising:

- 5 first discrimination means for discriminating the destination information of said received data;
- second discrimination means for discriminating the secrecy level information of said received data; and
- control means for executing the transfer of said
10 received data, according to the result of discrimination by said first and second discrimination means.

2. A communication apparatus according to claim
15 1, wherein said control means transfers said received data with encryption, according to the discrimination by at least either of said first and second discrimination means.

- 20 3. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said secrecy level information includes whether said received data are confidential data.

4. A communication apparatus according to claim
25 1, wherein said control means transfers said received data to the destination by e-mail, according to the discrimination by at least either of said first and

second discrimination means.

5. A communication apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said control means stores said received data
5 in a predetermined memory, according to the
discrimination by at least either of said first and
second discrimination means.

6. A communication apparatus according to claim
10 1, wherein said destination information includes
whether encryption information corresponding to said
destination is provided.

7. A communication apparatus according to claim
15 1, wherein said destination information includes path
information to the destination for said received data.

8. A communication apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said destination information includes
20 whether the encryption information corresponding to the
destination is within an effective period.

9. A communication method for transferring data
received from a first network to a second network, the
25 method comprising:

a first discrimination step of discriminating the
destination information of said received data;

a second discrimination step of discriminating the secrecy level information of said received data; and

a control step of executing the transfer of said received data, according to the result of
5 discrimination by said first and second discrimination steps.

10 10. A computer readable memory medium storing a program of a communication method for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the program comprising:

a first discrimination step of discriminating the destination information of said received data;

15 a second discrimination step of discriminating the secrecy level information of said received data; and

a control step of executing the transfer of said received data, according to the result of discrimination by said first and second discrimination steps.

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11. A communication apparatus for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the apparatus comprising:

25 discrimination means for discriminating whether encryption information corresponding to the destination of said received data is present; and

control means for executing control whether to

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transfer said received data with encryption based on the encryption information corresponding to said destination, ~~on~~^{or} to store said received data in a predetermined memory.

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12. A communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said control means transmits, to said destination, a message indicating that said received data are stored in a predetermined memory.

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13. A communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said encryption information is acquired from said destination.

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14. A communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said control means executes said encryption according to the secrecy level of said received data.

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15. A communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said control means is adapted, upon acquiring the encryption information from said destination, to encrypt the received data stored in said predetermined memory with said encryption information and to execute transfer to said

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destination.

16. A communication apparatus according to claim

11, wherein said control means executes said encryption according to the transfer path to said destination.

17. A communication apparatus according to claim 5 11, wherein said encryption information includes an effective period.

18. A communication apparatus according to claim 10 17, wherein the effective period of said encryption information is renewable.

19. A communication method for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the method comprising:
15 a discrimination step of discriminating whether encryption information corresponding to the destination of said received data is present; and

a control step of executing control whether to transfer said received data with encryption based on
20 the encryption information corresponding to said destination, ~~on~~^{or} to store said received data in a predetermined memory.

20. A computer readable memory medium storing a
25 program of a communication method for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the program comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating whether encryption information corresponding to the destination of said received data is present; and

- 5 a control step of executing control whether to transfer said received data with encryption based on the encryption information corresponding to said destination, ^{or} ~~en~~ to store said received data in a predetermined memory.